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SPORTS

Time to play ball for rejuvenated Winchester baseball team

JOE MCCONNELL | SPORTS EDITOR

March 28, 2025 . 6:00 AM — 2 min read

Winchester High School will take on non-league Somerville in the home opener on March 31 at Ciarcia Field, starting at 4:30 p.m. COURTESY PHOTO/HUNTRESS SPORTS

Coach Ed McDonald is beginning his second year in charge of hi
Winchester High School Red & Black baseball team. Last year, aft

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coming over from St. Joseph's Prep in Brighton, where he was its baseball coach for seven years, the Red & Black ended up with a 6-14 record.

But there were explanations for that sub-.500 mark.

"We struggled a lot, but we also had many of our top players get hurt," said McDonald. "But this year, we had 46 players tryout, which gives us enough to field three teams."

McDonald also has help along the sidelines, with Jeff Russell, Paul Donato and Paul Murray assisting him with various tasks. Rich Michenzi and Jayden Conner are the JV1 coaches, and Tom Ahern is the top boss of the JV2 squad.

Infielder Connor Pandolph and pitcher/outfielder Alex Casey are the varsity captains.

But with that said, McDonald has a simple mantra for the team, and that's "to start fresh."

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"We lost nine seniors to graduation last year, and only have three varsity returnees, but the goal is to still make the state tournament," he said. "We want to change the culture to once again become a winning team."

But the second-year Winchester coach knows it won't be easy.

"The (Middlesex) League is very competitive," he said. "Woburn and Reading always have solid squads, and they are very well-coached."

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Besides his captains, McDonald will be counting on his underclas help carry the load.

"We have a lot of sophomores and juniors, who are looking to be key contributors this year," he said.

McDonald scheduled three scrimmages against North Reading (March 22), Arlington Catholic (March 25) and Newton North (March 27) to get his club ready for what lies ahead in the regular season.

They will then take on non-league Somerville in the home opener on March 31 at Ciarcia Field, starting at 4:30 p.m.

Wilmington then comes to town two days later (April 2) to face the Winchester boys at the same time, before the local nine closes out the week on Friday, April 4, against non-league host Wellesley at 4 p.m.

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Winchester boys basketball heads to Bridgewater-Raynham for Sweet 16 game after beating Lexington in postseason opener

It was the third meeting this year between Middlesex League boys basketball rivals Lexington (16-5, 11th seed) and Winchester (17-4, 22nd seed). They split the first two during the regular season, thus making this Round of 32 postseason matchup the impromptu rubber game of this year's series, with the

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Winchester wrestling enjoys Top 10 finish at state divisional meet; senior captains move on to All-States

After the Winchester High qualified wrestlers competed hard over two days last weekend (Feb. 20, 21) in the State Division 1 Meet at North Andover High School, Mother Nature gave them a break to rest and recuperate with Monday's blizzard that resulted in two days off from school. There

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Winchester boys hockey advances to the Sweet 16 after beating Wachusett in the tournament opener

The Winchester High boys hockey team (12-9-2), the 17th seed, edged the 16th-seeded Wachusett Regional Mountaineers (18-2-1), 5-4 in a Round of 32 Division 1 state tournament game at Westborough's Northstar Ice Arena on Feb. 25. The Red & Black will now take on top seed Catholic Memorial (18-2-1)

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February 27, 2026

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With postseason starting Friday night, WHS boys hoop seniors English, Sarpong, Burbine join Middlesex League elite

The Winchester High boys basketball team, the 22nd seed, will take on Middlesex League rival Lexington, the 11th seed, to begin the Division 1 state tournament in the Round of 32 on Friday night, Feb. 27, starting at 6 p.m. These teams are so evenly matched, beginning with the

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School

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stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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